

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Dicken

Confirmation No. 9221

Application No.: 10/781,354

Attorney Docket No: 7390-X04-030

Filed: 02/17/2004

Group Art Unit: 2628

For: Method of Volume Visualization

Examiner: Hajnik

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop AF Response
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner Hajnik:

In reply to the final Office Action mailed April 2, 2007, Applicant hereby submits the following remarks and requests for reconsideration. Applicant submits these remarks serve to clarify the present invention and are independent of patentability.

Reconsideration of the application is requested. Claims 1-3 and 6-18 remain in the application.

In item 2 of the Office action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3 and 6-18 as being obvious over Gering in view of Gillick et al. '455 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). As will be explained below, the claims were patentable over the cited art in their original form and the claims have, therefore, not been amended to overcome the references.

Before discussing the prior art in detail, a brief review of the invention as claimed is provided. Claim 1 calls for, *inter alia*, a method of volume visualization that includes the following steps:

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